



GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

MAKING HISTORIC INVESTMENTS IN KIDS, SCHOOLS, AND SKILLS



Governor Whitmer believes every kid deserves a phenomenal public education and has worked across the aisle to make record investments from preschool to postsecondary.

Making historic investments in students and schools

- Put Michigan students first with [\\$9,608 per student](#) funding, the highest ever state funding without raising taxes. Raised per-pupil funding by \$1,729 since taking office, a 22% increase.
- [Closed the funding gap](#), ensuring every school district has the same baseline funding.
- [Provided](#) bipartisan, free breakfast and lunch to all 1.4 million public school students, forgiving all school meal debt, and making historic investments in before and after school learning supports, mental and physical health, and school safety.
- [Increased funding](#) for at-risk, English language learners, and special education.
- Secured [\\$214 per student](#) for on-campus mental health and school safety needs and [signed a budget](#) with \$328 million for mental health and school safety.
- Signed budgets that opened [100 school-based health clinics](#), [expanded access](#) to before and after-school programs, and increased on-campus [mental health professionals](#).
- Invested [\\$250 million](#) to modernize and upgrade school infrastructure.
- Signed a bill assisting schools with [providing funds](#) for school security, technology, transportation, and facility upgrades.
- Signed a bill [reducing red tape for schools](#) by removing a duplicative rating system that failed to meet federal requirements.
- Signed a [financial literacy bill](#) requiring high schoolers to take a financial literacy course.
- [Tripled](#) literacy coaches serving in schools to help every child read by third grade.
- [Eliminated waiting lists](#) and funded the [expansion](#) of the Great Start Readiness Program, putting Michigan on a path to Pre-K for all and ensuring every eligible four-year-old can attend preschool.
- Funded risk assessments and critical incidence mapping to help schools [protect students](#) and create safety plans in the event of an emergency.

Investing in teachers and staff

- Created the Mi Future Educator Scholarship offering \$10,000 scholarships to 2,500 future educators annually, funded Grow Your Own programs. Programs will hire or train an [additional 10,000 teachers](#).
- Proposed \$325 million for [literacy professional development](#) and educator mentoring.
- Signed legislation to [recruit and retain skilled educators](#) by allowing the state to accept out of state teaching certifications, helping educators collectively bargain, and boosting transparency in staffing.
- [Signed a budget](#) investing \$15 million to recruit and retain educators in rural areas.
- Thanked educators by providing premium pay with the [MI Classroom Heroes](#) program.

Keeping kids in class and responding to unfinished learning

- Signed a restoration of [parent's rights in education](#) allowing families to decide with educators to promote or hold back their child.
- [Reintroduced MI Kids Back on Track](#), a [\\$300 million plan](#) to tackle unfinished learning and [secured over \\$150 million](#) to expand tutoring across the state.
- Kept students safely learning in person by [expanding testing and screening](#) in schools.
- Ensured students had the [support and services](#) they needed during the pandemic.
- Established [Michigan Parent's Council](#), engaged over 13,500 parents, and proposed a [budget](#) that reflected their priorities.

Expanding access to education and skills after high school

- Set the [Sixty by 30 Goal](#) to have at least [60% of Michiganders](#) earn a degree or skill certificate by 2030 and created the Office of Sixty by 30 to lead the state's efforts.
- Established [Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Achievement, and Potential](#), a cabinet level department focused on early learning and higher education, improving long-term student outcomes, developing talent, and growing the economy.
- Created [Michigan Achievement Scholarship](#) to lower the cost of college by thousands.
- Established [Michigan Reconnect](#) to offer Michiganders 25 and up tuition-free associate degree or skills certificate in high-demand careers. Over [100,000+](#) accepted. Lowered the age for participants to 21, expanding eligibility to 350,000 more.
- [Futures for Frontliners](#) offers Michiganders who served on the frontlines of the pandemic tuition-free paths to postsecondary education or skills training. Over 85,000 accepted.
- Strengthened our [community colleges and universities](#) with operational increases—including establishing minimum per student funding at universities for the first time.
- Proposed [investments](#) to help more students graduate.
- Announced a new [Battery Job Training Program](#) at Henry Ford College to prepare students for the jobs of the future.
- Signed an [executive directive](#) to lower costs and reduce the student loan burden.